§ 641.560

determine if participants have the necessary supportive services to remain in the job.

- (b) Grantees must contact participants 6 months after placement to determine if they have been retained by the employer or use wage records to verify continued employment. (OAA sec. 513(c)(2)(B)).
- (c) Grantees may have other follow-up requirements under subparts ${\bf G}$ and ${\bf H}$

§ 641.560 May grantees place participants directly into unsubsidized employment?

Grantees are encouraged to refer individuals who may be placed directly in an unsubsidized employment position to an employment provider, including the One-Stop for job placement assistance under WIA. The SCSEP encourages grantees to work closely with participants to develop an IEP and assessment to determine what training the individual may need. The Department encourages grantees to work with those participants who are the most difficult to place to provide them with the services necessary to develop the skills needed for job placement.

§ 641.565 What policies govern the provision of wages and fringe benefits to participants?

- (a) Wages. Grantees must pay participants the highest applicable minimum wage for time spent in orientation, training required by the grantee/subgrantee, and work in community service assignments. The highest applicable minimum wage is either the minimum wage applicable under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938; the State or local minimum wage for the most nearly comparable covered employment; or the prevailing rate of pay for persons employed in similar public occupations by the same employer.
- (b) Fringe benefits—(1) Required fringe benefits. Except as provided in paragraphs (b)(3) and (b)(4) of this section, grantees must ensure that participants receive all fringe benefits required by law.
- (i) Grantees must provide fringe benefits uniformly to all participants within a project or subproject, unless the Department agrees to waive this

provision due to a determination that such a waiver is in the best interests of applicants, participants, and project administration.

- (ii) Grantees must offer participants the opportunity to receive physical examinations annually.
- (A) Physical examinations are a fringe benefit, and not an eligibility criterion. The examining physician must provide, to participants only, a written report of the results of the examination. Participants may, at their option, provide the grantee or subgrantee with a copy of the report.
- (B) Participants may choose not to accept the physical examination. In that case, the grantee or subgrantee must document this refusal, through a signed statement or other means, within 60 workdays after commencement of the community service assignment. Each year thereafter, grantees and subgrantees must offer the physical examination and document the offer and any participant's refusal.
- (iii) When participants are not covered by the State workers' compensation law, the grantee or subgrantee must provide participants with workers' compensation benefits equal to those provided by law for covered employment.
- (2) Allowable fringe benefit costs. Grantees may provide the following fringe benefits: annual leave; sick leave; holidays; health insurance; social security; and any other fringe benefits approved in the grant agreement and permitted by the appropriate Federal cost principles found in OMB Circulars A-87 and A-122, except for retirement costs. (See subpart H, §§641.847 and 641.850).
- (3) *Retirement*. Grantees may not use grant funds to provide contributions into a retirement system or plan.
- (4) Unemployment compensation. Unless required by law, grantees may not pay the cost of unemployment insurance for participants.

§ 641.570 Is there a time limit for participation in the program?

No, there is no time limit for participation in the SCSEP; however, a grantee may establish a maximum duration of enrollment in the grant agreement, when authorized by the Department. If

there is such a time limit on enrollment established in the grant agreement, the grantee must provide for a system to transition participants to unsubsidized employment or other assistance before the maximum enrollment duration has expired. Provisions for transition must be reflected in the participant's IEP.

§ 641.575 May a grantee establish a limit on the amount of time its participants may spend at each host agency?

Yes, grantees may establish limits on the amount of time that its participants may spend at a host agency. Such limits should be established in the grant agreement, as approved by the Department, and reflected in the participants' IEPs.

§ 641.580 Under what circumstances may a grantee terminate a participant?

- (a) If, at any time, a grantee or subgrantee determines that a participant was incorrectly declared eligible as a result of false information given by that individual, the grantee or subgrantee must immediately terminate the participant and provide the participant with a written notice that explains the reason for termination.
- (b) If, during annual income verification, a grantee finds a participant to be no longer eligible for enrollment because of changes in family income, the grantee may terminate the participant. In order to terminate the participant in such a case, the grantee must provide the participant with a written notice and terminate the participant 30 days after the participant receives the notice. (See §641.505).
- (c) If, at any time, the grantee or subgrantee determines that it incorrectly determined a participant to be eligible for the program through no fault of the participant, the grantee or subgrantee must give the participant immediate written notice explaining the reason(s) and must terminate the participant 30 days after the participant receives the notice.
- (d) A grantee and subgrantee may terminate a participant for cause. In doing so, the grantee or subgrantee must inform the participant, in writing, of the reason(s) for termination.

Grantees must discuss the proposed reasons for such terminations in the grant application, and must discuss such reasons with participants and provide each participant a written copy of its policies for terminating a participant for cause or otherwise at the time of enrollment.

- (e) A grantee or subgrantee may terminate a participant if the participant refuses to accept a reasonable number of job offers or referrals to unsubsidized employment consistent with the SCSEP IEP and there are no extenuating circumstances that would hinder the participant from moving to unsubsidized employment.
- (f) When a grantee or subgrantee makes an unfavorable determination of enrollment eligibility under paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this section, it must give the individual a reason for termination and, when feasible, should refer the individual to other potential sources of assistance, such as the One-Stop Delivery System.
- (g) Any termination, as described in paragraphs (a) through (f) of this section, must be consistent with administrative guidelines issued by the Department, and the termination must be subject to the applicable grievance procedures described in §641.910.
- (h) Participants may not be terminated from the program solely on the basis of their age. Grantees and subgrantees may not impose an upper age limit for participation in the SCSEP.

§ 641.585 Are participants employees of the Federal Government?

- (a) No, participants are not Federal employees. (OAA sec. 504(a)).
- (b) If a Federal agency is a grantee or host agency, §641.590 applies.

§ 641.590 Are participants employees of the grantee, the local project, and/or the host agency?

Grantees must determine if a participant is an employee of the grantee, local project, or host agency as the definition of an "employee" varies depending on the laws defining an employer/employee relationship.